

L'shanah Tovah

High Holiday Services are again scheduled at the beautiful sanctuaries of the Unitarian Center at Franklin & Geary streets, and at our own Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. Please refer to the complete High Holiday schedule in this issue for exact times and locations.

Our services continue to grow in popularity, and all members are encouraged to arrive at least 30 minutes early to assure seating. We will again offer members seating at the front of the Unitarian Center. Members in good standing will soon be receiving membership cards in the mail, which they will be asked to present for admittance for themselves and their guests to the members seating area.

Parking space is at a premium close to the Unitarian Center. Meters and street parking restrictions are enforced, yes, even on Jewish holidays. There are a number of nearby lots with various parking charges, but please note that there is *no* parking available at the Unitarian Center. Plan your time to include this search!

The Unitarian Center is wheelchair accessible, but has extremely limited handicapped parking on the street. Please notify the synagogue office if you will need assistance in entering through the special wheelchair entrance.

We will be pleased to provide signers for the hearing impaired at any service when needed. Please call the synagogue office one week in advance for scheduling.

Child care will be available during each service at the Unitarian Center, beginning 30 minutes in advance of a given service. Sue Douglass of the Family/Children's Havurah will be coordinating our child-care program and asks that parents call the synagogue office at least two days in advance of use to assure adequate



PHOTO BY AMY BLASENHEIM

President Richard Inlander

staffing for our children. There is a guideline for suggested child-care donations to help offset the costs.

Practice for Participants

This year, the Ritual Committee will hold two practice sessions for anyone who has an honor or will be participating in High Holiday services. The times are Friday, September 18 at 9:30 pm (after services), and Saturday, September 19 at 9:30 pm (before Slichot). (The Ritual Committee will mail out Rosh Hashanah assignments on Thursday night, September 10, and will try to mail out Yom Kippur assignments at the same time.)

Children's Services

This year, CSZ is planning two High Holiday services for young people. There will be a Rosh Hashanah Children's Service on September 24 at

12 noon, and a Yom Kippur Children's Service on October 3 at 1:30 pm, both at the Unitarian Center. The services are a joint effort of the Family and Children's Havurah and the Ritual Committee.

Tashlich at Fort Point

Among the various traditions for the ceremony of Tashlich is that of the Kurdish Jews, who, according to Arthur Waskow in *Seasons of Our Joy*, "leaped into the water and swam like fish to cleanse themselves of sin." Service leader Garry Koenigsberg
(Continued on page 10)

High Holiday Schedule

Slichot

Saturday, September 19, 10 pm
(at Sha'ar Zahav)

Kever Avot

Sunday, September 20
10 am, meet at Sha'ar Zahav
or 10:30 am, meet at cemetery

First Day Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 23, 7:30 pm
Thursday, September 24
Shachrit-Musaf, 10 am
Children's Service, 12 noon

Tashlich one hour after Musaf, Fort Point

Second Day Rosh Hashanah

Thursday, September 24, 6:30 pm
Friday, September 25, 10 am
(Both services at Sha'ar Zahav)

Shabbat Shuvah (Sabbath of Return)

Friday, September 25, 8:15 pm
Saturday, September 26, 10:30 am
(Both services at Sha'ar Zahav)

(Continued on page 10)

Where the Elite Meet?

Some people join Sha'ar Zahav quickly, after attending services or other functions only a few times. Others are not so bold and take more time to decide to become members. I was in the latter category. Even after I took the step of becoming a member, I did not feel a part of the group. I remember a number of occasions on which I enjoyed the refreshments and the feeling in the room during Oneg Shabbat, but felt that I was really not a part of the "in" crowd. I remember watching the people that were obviously leaders or "seasoned" members and thinking how happy they seemed to be in their clique, how much they seemed to be enjoying each other's company, how comfortable they were at Sha'ar Zahav, and I felt out of it. I felt that there was an elite group within the synagogue and that I was unwelcome.

I was wrong.

I started to learn that I was wrong when someone asked me to help Jay Feinstein with the synagogue's booth at the Castro Street Fair one year. I did some work, had a great time, and started to get to know more people—even some of those "insiders" that I had thought would not be interested in chatting with me. I talked with the chair of a committee and when he told me about its work, I thought it sounded interesting. I learned that any member is welcome to attend and vote at committee meetings. I started to attend, and became even more active. I made more friends.

I learned that there is no elite group in Sha'ar Zahav and there are no outsiders. There are members who volunteer and work for the temple and thereby get to know each other well; and there are people who do not volunteer and therefore meet fewer people and get to know fewer still. I learned that no one had been excluding me from my imaginary Sha'ar Zahav elite, and that by simply taking an active role in synagogue life I could be one of those happy, smiling people at Oneg.

Some of us are a little shy and even if we get beyond thinking we're not wanted, we are reluctant to step

forward and volunteer. I was that way, but I was lucky—someone asked me to help. Sha'ar Zahav has grown in numbers since I first joined. I and the committee chairs who need help do not know each one of you by name, or what your interests are, so it may be hard for us to seek you out individually and personally ask for your assistance. But I am asking you to try to overcome your shyness and to offer your help.

There are innumerable opportunities to volunteer at Sha'ar Zahav. There is truly something for everyone. You may want to start with a single project, as I did, and work on our upcoming Chanukah party. Or, you may be interested in working on one of our committees. Turn to the back page of this newsletter, and you will see a list of them from which to choose. When you read the Va'ad Reports and the Advance Report, as well as the many articles in this issue of the Forward, I'm sure something will catch your attention and will sound like an area that you might be interested in. When that happens, call the committee chair, or call Jacqueline at the temple office and tell her what you would like to do. If she isn't there, leave a message on our answering machine. We are easy to reach with just a little effort.

"Elite" means a group or part of a group which is regarded as the best or most powerful. I have come to know that we are all the elite of Sha'ar Zahav, that every one of us has something unique and wonderful to offer. Next Friday at the Oneg, if you find yourself standing off to the side somewhere and you see me smiling and laughing, please come up to me, introduce yourself and say, "I read your column. I'd like to help." I may well respond, "Welcome to the club!"

—Richard Inlander, President

Classified Ad

COUNTRY PROPERTY FOR SALE California (Mount Shasta area). 20 acres, spectacular panoramic view of Mount Shasta. Private. On county road. Adjacent to power. Near beautiful Lake Siskiyou. \$27,900. Terms. (415) 626-6196.

Children's Educational Program

We are thrilled to announce the beginning of "Kadimah," a series of educational programs for children four years and older. We have planned six sessions for this year to be led by Rabbi Yoel Kahn. Enrollment is limited, and priority will be given to synagogue members. For more information about the programs and how to register, call Ida Kuluk at 531-6179. The first program is scheduled for September 19, so call soon!

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published 11 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Bob Goldware (Articles Coordinator), Peter Vishniac (Advertising Coordinator), Alex Ingersoll, Garry Koenigsberg, Alita Rosenfeld and David Stein (general editorial and production); Amy Blasenheim (photos); Frank Hyman, Chuck Norton, Ben Schalit, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Pagesetter Typography.

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste. For more information on advertising rates and charges, call the synagogue office at 861-6932.

A Night to Remember

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's 10th Anniversary celebration—Ten From the Heart—was a party that few will ever forget. Beginning with a beautiful setting in the Green Room at the War Memorial Performing Arts Center on Van Ness Avenue, overlooking the City Hall dome and ending with a joyous chorus of Oseh Shalom four hours later, attendees agreed that the evening was one of the most special in our history.

Ralph Frischman and his talented design associates transformed the Green Room into a shimmering, dazzling sight. The buffets were presented by Bon Appetit and there was unanimous agreement that the buffet tables provided delicious and bountiful treats for everyone. After welcoming remarks from President Richard Inlander and Rabbi Yoel Kahn, the Sha'ar Zahav Ensemble debuted two new selections.

What followed was one of the highlights of the event. Rob Tat and Ralph Frischman put together a wonderful slide show, documenting our 10 years in the San Francisco community. This brought back memories for those members who had been involved in those early years, and also gave our newer members a visual sense of what our history has been, and how much we have grown through the years. The slide show was narrated by several of our past presidents and co-leaders, which gave it a special significance for all of us.

The program concluded with two selections from the Hallel Brothers, including "Don't Let the Lights Go Out," a song that speaks to the continuity of the Jewish people and our resolve to flourish and grow today and always. Jonathan Funk and Eric Keitel then sang an *a cappella* version of "Ten From the Heart"—a song composed especially for the occasion by Aaron Cooper.

As the last notes of "Ten From the Heart" faded away, the dancing began. Randall Schiller Productions provided us with a terrific blend of disco, soul, salsa, and even Hava Negila. The energy was incredible, as the dancing continued right up until the end of the evening.

During the singing of Oseh Shalom, the expression on people's faces told the story—a story of contentment, of pride, of joy—a story that could only be called "Ten From the Heart."

Many thanks to all of the people who helped make the night the success it was. Extra special thanks to Eric Keitel, coordinator of the event, Ralph Frischman, Alex Ingersoll, Ellen Kugler, Sharyn Saslafsky, David Stein, Andy Zimmerman, Joel Wasser, Rob Tat, Barry Siegel, Catherine Dodd, Neil Hart, Ben Schalit, Jonathan Funk, Harvey Bartnof, Dana Vinicoff and the Sha'ar Zahav Ensemble, John Arnold, Gerald Wood, James Bogert, Ellen Elias, Aaron Cooper, Rosalinda del Moral, Susan Greenspan, Howard Blechman, Steve Elman, Jonathan Schwartz and Jane Turner, and everyone else who helped make Ten From the Heart a night to remember.

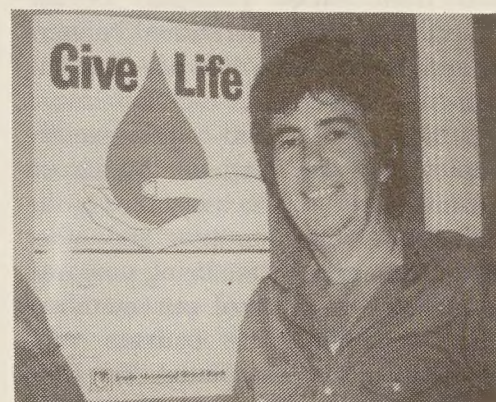
CSZ Wins UAHC Social Action Award

The Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism, a joint agency of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis, will honor Sha'ar Zahav for its extraordinary social action program at the 59th General Assembly of the UAHC in Chicago, October 29-November 3. Presentation of the social action certificate will take place November 1, following the keynote address by Rabbi David Saperstein.

Sha'ar Zahav has been a leader in addressing many social issues: assistance to people with AIDS and their loved ones, community education, and fundraising in response to the AIDS crisis; support for Central American refugees through our Covenant of Sanctuary; outreach to the needy and the elderly, such as our visits to the Jewish Home for the Aged; support of Ethiopian and Soviet Jews; and education and support for lesbian and gay rights.

High Holidays Blood Drive

On September 27, the Sunday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the Women's Havurah will sponsor the congregation's High Holidays Blood Drive. It will be held at Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, Turk and Masonic streets, between 10:30 am and 2:30 pm. The blood bank, which is normally closed on Sunday, will be opened especially on this day for our group. We hope that the number of people donating this year will help meet the growing need for blood by members of our congregation as well as justify this special opening.



Last year's blood drive chair Leila Raim

Those planning to donate are urged to make an appointment in advance so that waits can be minimized. If you do not make an appointment and find you can donate, just come during the time indicated.

Alita Rosenfeld is coordinating this event. Anyone wishing to make an appointment, to volunteer or to ask questions should contact Alita at 662-2273.

During this most important time of the year, when we examine our lives in all aspects, we have this opportunity to perform a real mitzvah and express our feelings of mishpacha.

While many of the men in the congregation cannot give blood, in the tradition of Sha'ar Zahav, the Brotherhood will be there to nurture with baked goodies, juice, music of the donor's choice and warmth.

Now, when our congregation most needs to maintain this resource, we hope that many women and friends will take half an hour to donate.

L'shanah tovah.

—Marion Trentman

Remembrance, Pronouncement/ Protest, and Sovereignty

The Shofar, symbol of the High Holidays, is sounded three times. Each cycle of blasts is in turn associated with a theme of Rosh Hashanah. These three motifs are: *Zichronot*, "Remembrance"; *Shofrot*, "Pronouncement/Protest"; and *Malchuyot*, "Sovereignty." The shofar's calls bring these thoughts to my mind:

Remembrance: Our congregation is participating in the nationwide Names Project to create a memorial quilt to honor the memory of those who have died from AIDS. The goal of the project is to create individual banners for people who have died of AIDS. The banners will be sewn together into a gigantic quilt and prominently displayed at the National March on Washington. With the assistance of the Bikkur Cholim Committee and other volunteers, banners are being prepared in memory of each of our members who has died. The banners will, however, not be completed. The final steps—including personal decorations and messages—will be accomplished at Slichot services, Saturday, September 19 at 10 pm. These banners will be a memorial created by the congregation and the entire membership is invited to join in the completion of this mitzvah of remembrance.

Pronouncement/Protest: The shofar also summons us to action. A unique opportunity for action this High Holiday season is the National March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights, on October 11 (Columbus Day weekend). In addition to the march itself, there will be lobbying, the unfolding of the quilt, and demonstrations protesting the lack of adequate AIDS funding. Our sibling congregation, Beit Mishpachah, is planning special events to welcome Jewish marchers and will arrange for home hospitality. As the political climate continues to worsen, the sound of the shofar summons us to action. I will be going to the march; if at all possible, I hope you will be there too. For more information, call 861-5536.

Sovereignty: A central theme of Rosh Hashanah is the sovereignty of

the Holy Blessed One. The High Holidays are a time of "centering"—sorting out what is truly important and worthy of our loyalty and devotion and what is not. Although there are many political and external matters which demand our immediate attention, we also need to find time to focus on our own spirituality. The entire month of Elul is a time of preparation for the Days of Awe. Our tradition makes explicit suggestions about how we can prepare ourselves for the honest examination—before self and God—which is central to the High Holiday season. Set time aside each day for prayer. Like any other skilled activity, effective prayer requires practice. Make a contribution to tzedakah daily—put money in a pushke or set aside an item of food to be taken at the end of the week to the baskets at the synagogue. Daily, consider your relationships with others—and return with words and acts of healing to those who may have been harmed or hurt during the previous year.

* * *

At the congregational Passover Seder, over \$1,000 was contributed to the Me'ot Chittim appeal to provide food for the hungry. The Va'ad voted to donate the money contributed to the AIDS Foundation Food Bank (our primary beneficiary) and to Mazon. Mazon was created several years ago as a national Jewish response to hunger. Mazon makes grants to many different programs providing direct assistance to those without food. With our assistance, the AIDS Food Bank applied to Mazon and was recently awarded \$5,000 to purchase perishable foods which are not obtainable through donations.

Best wishes to you and those you love for a good New Year.

—Rabbi Yoel H. Kahn

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Anniversaries

- 1 Susan Ganz & Diane Kuchins
- 23 Betty Kalis & Marion Trentman
- 30 Blanche Blachman & Adrienne Forshay

The Cookbook Cometh

Gorgeous. Delightful. Stellar. These are the words being used to describe *Out of Our Kitchen Closets: San Francisco Gay Jewish Cooking*, the new cookbook from Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

Final printing and binding are nearing completion and the cookbook's project coordinator, Susan Unger, couldn't be more pleased with the results. "The cookbook looks wonderful," she said. "I think everyone is going to be really happy with it." And happiness is just around the corner. The cookbook will be distributed at the synagogue (near the information table at the back of the sanctuary) according to the following schedule:

- Friday, September 11, after services to 10:15 pm
- Sunday, September 13, from 1 pm to 4 pm
- Friday, September 18, after services to 10:15 pm

Because Jewish law forbids both the sale and receipt of any goods in the sanctuary during Shabbat, only "paid for" cookbooks can be picked up on Friday nights. The Sunday distribution day is added for those who cannot make it Friday nights or who wish to purchase a cookbook on the spot. If you paid to have your cookbook mailed to you, you will be receiving it during the middle of September.

Sales of the cookbook have been brisk. Members of the congregation responded very favorably to the letter mailed to them during May, ordering more than 450 standard edition cookbooks plus over 30 special editions. And with the approach of the High Holidays, sales should take off again. After all, *Out of Our Kitchen Closets* is a perfect gift for the Jewish Holidays and a great way to start the New Year.

If you haven't ordered your copy of our unique new cookbook, you're missing out! Pick up an order form from the information table at the back of the sanctuary or request one by writing or calling the synagogue office.

Our of Our Kitchen Closets is on its way. This time you'll be able to taste the excitement.

—Andy Zimmerman

Advance Report

Sha'ar Zahav's annual leadership Advance took place during the weekend of July 24-26 at Wildwood Ranch in the hills high above the Russian River. The theme of this year's Advance—an opportunity for the congregation's leadership at all levels to meet in a pleasant and relaxing environment and examine the challenges of our changing organization—was "Growing Up as a Synagogue . . . The Sequel." Over 30 members—whose experience spans the congregation's entire 10-year history, including committee chairs, officers, Va'ad members, past leaders (and, no doubt, future leaders as well)—participated in thoughtful and serious discussions of the consequences of the synagogue's phenomenal growth. The Advance explored important issues facing the congregation and its leadership such as preserving our gay and lesbian Jewish identity, developing and supporting our leaders, and educating our children.

Friday evening's Kabbalat Shabbat service and dinner were followed by a delightful re-experiencing of "being young again," "growing up again," and "beginning to grow." Susan Colson facilitated this year's Advance with her usual skill and warmth. To set the tone of the Advance and celebrate Shabbat together, we all enjoyed singing and dancing to tunes learned many years ago, when we were still very young (children, that is).

Shabbat morning services, led by Rabbi Kahn, included a Torah study session which touched on the role of leaders and the place of compromise. Following services, participants engaged in a discussion exploring our gay and lesbian identity and what makes us special in other ways: how we are different from other synagogues; how we are similar to other synagogues; and the ways we want to remain different and/or similar. Some of the aspects of our identity which were mentioned included: Sha'ar Zahav as a caring community; knowing the people we worship with; our acceptance and blending of diversity; education and dialogue between non-gays and gays; our openness; *bikkur cholim*, and cooperation between men and women.

Finance Committee chair Don Albert described the dues structure of the UAHC and how CSZ is attempting to meet its obligation to pay its MUM (Maintenance of Union Membership) dues. Those present agreed that UAHC membership is of vital importance.

During an extensive discussion Saturday afternoon on leadership development, participants asked how we can: let members know that volunteering can be and often is part of membership; train and orient volunteers to their jobs; support our leaders; help leaders accept and deal with their responsibilities; give support for each new task that is undertaken; encourage ourselves to let off steam outside of group settings; and communicate clearly. After Shabbat, Rabbi Kahn led Havdalah. During free time Saturday, we enjoyed games, discussions, the hot tub, and time to relax together.

"Grown Up Enough to Have Children" was the subject of Sunday morning's exploration of our thoughts and feelings about having children in the synagogue. We dealt honestly with many of our anxieties, fears, and hopes

about these issues (including both those things that we do like about children and those we think we don't). Jill Rose and Sue Douglass, co-chairs of the Children's Havurah, described the participation of the children and adults in the activities of the Children's Havurah. Rabbi Kahn presented his vision of an education program for the children of the congregation, a program that would deal honestly with the world, with our lives and their lives in it and would be integrated into Jewish life and congruent with the children's home life. He proposed for the future a "one-room school" program for children five to nine years old, meeting weekly.

In a discussion on preserving our specialness, we examined what some of the underlying problems growing pains of an organization such as ours might experience: older, "more seasoned" leaders don't get relief and newer leaders move into new positions too fast without the training they need for their jobs; leaders don't feel recognized; the leadership seems inaccessible to members, and members seem to the leadership to be apathetic;

(Continued on page 14)



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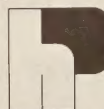
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Education Committee

Fall Classes

The fall schedule of evening classes has been announced by the Education Committee. All classes will begin on Tuesday, October 6 and will continue each Tuesday for eight weeks, concluding November 24.

A Hebrew class to learn reading and understanding of the prayers will be offered. Open to all new and continuing students who know the Hebrew alphabet, the class will continue in the textbook, *Prayerbook Hebrew, the Easy Way*. Those seeking more information should contact Shana Winokur at 531-0818. This class will meet at the shul from 7:15 to 8:45 pm.

The Rabbi's classes this year will include "A Jewish Look at the Five Books: Deuteronomy." Now entering its third year, our study of the Torah continues with the Book of Deuteronomy. Deuteronomy is the last and most eloquent of the five books of the Torah. Cast in the form of Moses' farewell addresses, Deuteronomy reviews the history of the people's wanderings and presents a clear outline for how the nations should live. Each session will be a free-wheeling discussion of a different passage or chapter. We will also look carefully at the comments of the ancient Jewish commentators. This class is open to everyone, whether or not you have attended previous terms.

The other class taught by the Rabbi is "Modern Jewish Thinkers." Jewish teaching and life revolves around the three pillars of Torah, God and the people of Israel. The modern world has challenged Jews to rethink the meaning and place of all three. This class will examine how important Jewish thinkers have attempted to answer, among other topics: How does a modern person believe in God? How has the Holocaust affected our faith? Is the Covenant binding? What are a modern Jew's responsibilities to the Jewish people? Thinkers to be discussed include: Martin Buber, Mordechai Kaplan, Judith Plaskow and Franz Rosenzweig. Special interests of those enrolling in the class will shape the focus the class assumes. No prior background required—open to all.

The class times are as follows:

Bikkur Cholim Committee

Kever Avot Visit

The Bikkur Cholim Committee has scheduled a Kever Avot visit to the Holocaust Monument in Salem Memorial Cemetery in Colma on Sunday, September 20, at 10:30 am. The custom of Kever Avot, literally meaning the grave of one's parents, is the traditional pilgrimage to the graves of deceased family and friends before the High Holidays.

The visit's purpose is to remember the sanctity of their lives and to gain inspiration for the new year. We will observe this custom, rooted in Judaism's deep respect for the meaningfulness of life, together for the first time.

Our visit to the Holocaust Monument, part of Congregation B'nai Emunah's section, will symbolize both the remembrance of the unmarked graves of our martyrs, and the graves of our loved ones in distant communities. We will recite the Kaddish together and privately remember those loved ones who have died in years past.

Interested individuals may gather at the synagogue promptly at 10 am to depart as a group for the cemetery. (Rides will be available.) Maps will be on the Sanctuary rear table during September.

For Sale

Souvenir
10th Anniversary
Posters

unfolded, suitable for framing

\$10 each

To order, contact the
synagogue office

- Hebrew class, 7:15 pm to 8:40 pm
- Modern Jewish Thinkers, 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm
- Deuteronomy, 8:45 pm to 9:45 pm

The cost of the classes will be: members, \$20 per class; non-members, \$30 per class.

Women's Havurah

Arias and Eats

Bring a picnic and join the Women's Havurah on Sunday, September 13 at the Band Concourse between the De-Young Museum and the Academy of Science in Golden Gate Park. From 10 am to 2 pm, we will picnic, shmooze, and listen to the singers and orchestra rehearse. At 2 pm the serious stuff begins, and those who stay will have an opportunity to hear some of the fall opera season performers. There is no charge to the public for this event. To locate the group, look for CSZ sweatshirts and familiar, friendly faces.

If you miss this activity, look for the Women's Havurah welcome table at High Holidays. The calendar for the rest of 1987 and through June 1988 will be on the table. Some of the activities include the annual blood drive, a Russian River overnight, a Women's New Moon Dance in October, a pre-Shabbat dinner, a games night, and the annual pool party.

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members in July and August. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Marsha Blachman
Ken Burke
Philip Charney
Alan Craig
James Dobkins
Joey Finkelstein
Frayda Garfinkle
Rochelle Glickman
Roger Gross
Marjorie Hilsenrad & Diane Spaugh
Lawrence Millner
Florence & Steve Nacamulli
David Pierce
Sydni Rozenfeld
A. Jeffrey Statnick

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		7 Elul 1	8 2	9 3	10 4 Services, 8:15pm	11 5
12 6	13 7 Education Comm., 7:30pm	14 8	15 9 Soviet Vigil, Green & Baker, 11:30am	16 10 Social Action Comm., 7:30pm	17 11 Services, 8:15pm	18 12
19 13 Women's Havurah Opera in the Park/ Picnic, 10am-2pm	20 14 Va'ad Meeting, 6:30pm Newsletter Deadline	21 15	22 16	23 17 Bikkur Cholim Comm., 7:30pm	24 18 Services, 8:15 pm	25 19 Family Havurah Kadimah, 9:30-11:30am
26 20	27 21	28 22	29 23 Erev Rosh Hashanah	1 Tishrei 24 Rosh Hashanah See High Holiday Schedule	2 25 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah Services, 8:15 pm	3 26
4 27 Fast of Gedaliah Blood Drive Turk & Masonic 10:30am-2:30pm	5 28	6 29	7 30			

Ritual Calendar

Friday, September 4

Parsha: Ki-Tetze
Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Shana
Winokur

Friday, September 11

Parsha: Ki-Tavo
Steve Elman, Services
Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Sermon

Friday, September 18

Parsha: Nitzavim/Vayelech
Bill Schlichter & Leslie Bergson

Saturday, September 19

S'lichot Services, 10:00 pm
Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Steve Greenberg
& Leslie Bergson

Wednesday, September 23

Thursday, September 24

Friday, September 25

Rosh Hashanah
See High Holiday Schedule

Friday, September 25

Shabbat Shuvah
Parsha: Haazinu
Daniel Chesir, Services
Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Sermon

Saturday, September 26

Shabbat Shuvah
Morning Service, 10:30 am
Rabbi Yoel Kahn & Aaron Frankel

Naches

Mazel tov to members Joel Levine and Debra Jacobs who were married June 21.

* * *

We'd all like to share in the *naches* of members of our Sha'ar Zahav family. If you or someone you know has something special to share with *Forward* readers, please contact the synagogue office.

Tidbits From Your Treasurer

Dues renewal forms were due back to the synagogue by July 31. If you still haven't sent yours in, please do so as soon as possible. This will save CSZ the postage of having to send out individual reminders.

I'd also like to ask you to send separate checks for each fund to which you are contributing. It makes things more difficult when I have to separate contributions to several funds when they're written on the same check.

The new Sha'ar Zahav computer is functioning and will streamline much of the financial and data management components for all of us.

I'd like to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year—may we continue to be together in a spirit of oneness throughout the coming year. L'shana tovah!

—Eric Keitel

July Va'ad Report

Vice President Irene Ogus chaired the Va'ad's July 13 meeting, filling in for President Richard Inlander, who was out of town to attend the Tenth International Conference of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations. Irene welcomed the newly elected Va'ad members whose terms began in July, and explained the process used to conduct Va'ad meetings. (All CSZ members are welcome to attend meetings of the Va'ad).

Compliments were extended to Sha'ar Zahav's Tenth Anniversary Committee for the extraordinary poster invitation that was sent to Sha'ar Zahav's members and friends. Eric mentioned that unfolded posters (suitable for framing) are available for \$10 each.

Irene reported on the UAHC Board of Trustees meeting which she attended in New York. Irene discussed with various UAHC officials the possibilities for CSZ to submit a resolution to the UAHC Biennial in Chicago next October. The Va'ad will decide on its course of action at its August meeting.

Membership Committee chair Robin Leonard presented nine new membership applications, all of which the Va'ad unanimously accepted.

The Va'ad discussed the printing costs and sales of Sha'ar Zahav's cookbook, *Out of Our Kitchen Closets: San Francisco's Gay Jewish Cooking*, and decided unanimously to approve the motion of Betty Kalis to print 2500 copies. The Va'ad expressed sincere appreciation and admiration for the work of Susan Unger and her committee and all of the many other

volunteers who have helped develop the cookbook.

The Va'ad discussed Richard's president's report and the need for some new committee chairs. A number would like to step down and turn over their responsibilities to new people. Irene collected names of potential candidates to fill some of the positions that will be open. The Va'ad extended its express of mazel tov and welcome to Steve Greenberg, the new chair of the Ritual Committee.

[Recorder's note: I would like to thank Va'ad member Sen Talley, who ably and graciously recorded the minutes of this meeting while I was on vacation in Amsterdam and Israel.]

—Ben Schalit, Recorder

USB Local 220

This year, the United Sukkah Builders' Local 220 will begin building the Sha'ar Zahav Sukkah 1987 on Sunday, October 4 at 12 noon, the day after Yom Kippur. The site is the home of architect Allan Gold, 424 Central Ave. in San Francisco. Construction Supervisor Leslie Bergson will be on hand to train new crew members, and to expound on the technicalities of Sukkah building, ritual, and enjoyment.

To join the union, call the synagogue office. Union membership is free, in exchange for labor (laying branches and hanging fruit). After the structure is finished, union members usually go out to eat and discuss future contracts and possible strikes.

Yahrzeits

- 1 Peter Lorenzo Abinanti, father of Peter Abinanti
- 1 Gus Liebowitz, grandfather of Robin Leonard
- 1 Nathan Miller, stepfather of G. Murray Miller
- 2 Macfarland Reed, grandfather of Jim Dobkins
- 3 Nathan Hyman, father of Frank Hyman
- 4 (10 Elul) Dora Solomon, grandmother of Paul Schwartz
- 4 Abraham Parker, father of Harold Parker
- 5 (11 Elul) Maurice Ash, father of Terry Rothchild
- 9 (15 Elul) Meyer Hirst, grandfather of Milton Estes
- 12 (18 Elul) Samuel Albert, grandfather of Don Albert
- 14 (20 Elul) Frances Cohen, sister of Bernard Pechter
- 15 Bertha Goldstein, grandmother of Robert Goldware
- 16 (22 Elul) Jeanette Solomon Toporek, mother of Elliott Toporek
- 17 Samuel Berkowitz, grandfather of Roberta Weber
- 18 (24 Elul) Yetta Skolnik, grandmother of Hal Heller
- 19 Enid Feld, cousin of Ed Leven
- 22 (28 Elul) Frieda Find Goldstein, mother of Bill Goldstein
- 23 Fannie Stein, mother of David Stein
- 23 (29 Elul) Clara Susid Boskoff, grandmother of Jane Graeven
- 23 (29 Elul) Doris Fink, friend of Carol Cohen
- 24 (1 Tishri) Rose Richshafer, grandmother of Sherie Ann Koshover
- 25 Rho Barrett, friend of Betty Kalis
- 25 (2 Tishri) Philip Yanofsky, father of Allen Harris
- 26 Dora Siegel Weinstein, grandmother of Barry Siegel
- 28 (5 Tishri) Esther Toporek, grandmother of Elliott Toporek
- 29 Albert Stein, father of David Stein

Note: Yahrzeits will be read at services on the Friday preceding the Yahrzeit date.

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DAVID R. GELLMAN
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Bikkur Cholim Committee

Nursing Home High Holiday Visits

Remember visiting your grandparents at the holidays? The home-baked sponge cake, the apples with honey, and the glass of wine your parents only permitted on special occasions. Well, if you're into lots of singing, dancing and making people feel good all over, the Bikkur Cholim committee has got a treat in store for you. It's our annual High Holiday visits to senior citizens.

This year we will be visiting two

homes on Sunday, September 20: the Park Board and Care Home, and the Hillhaven Convalescent Center. With lots of lively action, you just might not know who you'll meet on the dance floor. So, if you like having fun and making people happy, go on, be a mensch and meet the Bikkur Cholim Committee at the synagogue at 11:30 am. Who knows, maybe it will make you happy, too!

Tenth Anniversary Contributors

We would like to thank the following members and friends for their sponsorship and contributions in support of Ten from the Heart.

Sponsors: Don Albert, Harvey Bartnof, Al Baum, Allan Berenstein, Michael Bettinger, Howard Blechman, Roger Boas, Tiela Chalmers, Seth Charney, Robert Cohen, Aaron Cooper & Eric Keitel, Steve Elman, Michael Freedland, Ralph Frischman, Jonathan Funk & John Arnold, Ed Gabay & Jack Leister, David Gellman, Allan Gold, Daniel H., Frank Hyman, Alex Ingersoll & David Stein, Richard Inlander & Ben Schalit, Rabbi Yoel Kahn & Dan Bellm, Milton & Shirley Keitel, Walter Leiss, Robin Leonard & Lee Ryan, Ron Lezell, Michael Lipson, George Lucas & Tom Rothgeisser, Carole Migden, Marilyn Miller, Irene Ogus, Cheryl Orvis, Gordon Osser, Walter Palmer, Bernard Pechter, Mike Rankin, Alita Rosenfeld, Jerry Rosenstein, Sharyn Saslafsky, David Shaber, Ron Shore,

Patricia Smith, Nancy Snow & Dana Vinicoff, Sam Thal, Sam Tucker, Steven Unger, Ralph Vissell, Mark Vogel, Joel Wasser, Eli Weinstein, Paul Wotman, Tom Yazman, Michael Zimmerman.

Other Contributors: Julia Bloomfield & Barbara Hellmuth, Merle Keitel-Blumenthal & Dale Blumenthal, Bon Appetit Catering, Barbara Boxer, Bredwell Meyer Flowers, Ken Burke, Cascade Color, Citicorp Savings & Loan Association, Dimension Four Graphics, Empire of America, Gilbert-Clarke Stationers, Dr. & Mrs. Ross Goldware, Irvin Goyan, Lou Greene Printers, The Hibernia Bank, Arlene Hoffman, Martin Kupferman, David Lester (Pagesetter Typography), Alan Matcovsky, Randy Schiller Productions, Jonathan Schwartz, Tom Sheehan, Kathleen Sharp, Barry Siegel (Event Planner), Les Silverman (L.M. Silverman Graphic Communications), Gladys Youberg.

Oneg Sponsors

During July, onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 3 Ida Kuluk, in memory of her mother Adelle Kuluk and her friend Andrea Goldberg
- 10 Peter Vishniac, in memory of Mark Feldman; and Steve Elman, in celebration of his birthday
- 17 Members and friends of the Ritual Committee, in honor of Daniel Chesir
- 31 Mike Rankin, in honor of his godson William Joel Milcovich and his two new roommates; Tiger Rankin and Tom Selleck

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring a complete oneg is \$80 or, for partial sponsorship, \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

Own Your Own

Why borrow when you can buy? CSZ has replenished its stock of prayerbooks for sale. So, instead of borrowing your favorite liturgy and worrying about getting it back to us, you can own your own. Yom Kippur Machzors are available for \$12 and Friday Evening Prayerbooks for \$10. Sorry, we don't have enough Rosh Hashanah Machzors to sell at this time.

By the way, if you have borrowed prayerbooks at home, the High Holiday season is a great time to return them.

—Ritual Committee

Remember to keep us up to date. If you've moved, changed your name, have a new phone number, or wish to add a listing to our yahrzeit or anniversary records, please call or write the synagogue office.

PAUL FREUD WOTMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

LAW OFFICES OF
PAUL WOTMAN
25 VAN NESS AVENUE, PENTHOUSE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

(415) 864-1900

August Va'ad Report

President Richard Inlander opened the August meeting of the Va'ad by expressing his thanks to Eric Keitel and Ralph Frischman for their beautiful work on the Tenth Anniversary Party. Vice President Irene Ogus moved "that in recognition of the extraordinary accomplishment in planning the Tenth Anniversary of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, the Va'ad formally thank Eric and his loyal band of supporters for an extravaganza of perfection." The Va'ad passed this motion by acclamation and with applause.

UAHC Liaison Mike Rankin reported on plans for the UAHC biennial in Chicago, and said that two of Sha'ar Zahav's members will be on a panel speaking about gay and lesbian issues. Mike discussed the need for the Northern California Region to form a regional AIDS Committee, as has been done in the other UAHC regions. He reviewed the status of CSZ's proposed resolution calling for legal protection for gays and lesbians, for governments to prohibit employment discrimination against lesbians and gay men by local, state, and federal agencies, and for "partners' benefits" laws.

Treasurer Eric Keitel was thrilled to report that the July statement was prepared on the synagogue's new computer. Furthermore, the statement balanced! He reported on the progress of membership renewals, which have been received so far from one half of the congregations' members. Membership chair Robin Leonard presented six new membership applications, which received the Va'ad's approval.

Richard led a brainstorming session to follow up on the discussion at the Advance on the decision-making process for bringing a children's education program to CSZ. The consensus of the Va'ad was that an ad hoc committee should be appointed by the Va'ad to study the feasibility of such a program. The Va'ad approved the Children's Havurah's proposal for a program for school-age children this year, with fees of \$30 for members and \$60 for non-members. Rabbi Kahn will be the teacher of the program.

Ellen Kugler, this year's High Holidays coordinator, reported on access to and seating in the Unitarian

L'shanah Tovah

(Continued from page 1)

probably won't ask us to do that in the cold waters off Fort Point, but we will have the traditional opportunity to cast our sins into the depths in symbolic form of the crumbs from our pockets. The word "tashlich" means literally "you shall cast."

Sha'ar Zahav's Tashlich service will be held an hour after the Rosh Hashanah Musaf service on September 24. Maps showing the routes to Fort Point will be available at the membership table at the Unitarian Center on the day of the service. Don't forget to bring a picnic lunch so that we can enjoy a Seudah Mitzvah (festival meal) together after the ceremony.

AIDS Food Drive

Last year a new tradition was established at Sha'ar Zahav. This tradition requests each of us to donate food (non-perishable) or some cosmetic item (shaving cream, razors, soap, paper goods, etc.) to the Sha'ar Zahav Food Bank. The items will be transported to the S.F. AIDS Foundation Food Bank.

On this day of atonement in which we examine our relationships to God and our fellow human beings, what better way to start out a new year than by reaching out to our brothers and sisters who are in need and performing an act of tzedakah.

Please bring your bag of donations to the Unitarian Center on either Yom Kippur eve or day.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities exist! Please contact Ellen Kugler through the synagogue office and offer your services for our services. Ushers, food preparers and general helpers will be needed throughout the High Holidays.

Center for members and non-members. Services for children will be provided this year, and a picnic is planned following the Tashlich service.

The Va'ad is particularly pleased to welcome all CSZ members who have an interest in bringing their ideas and opinions to the Va'ad's meetings. We hope to welcome you to your first meeting soon!

—Ben Schalit, Recorder

High Holiday Schedule

(Continued from page 1)

Yom Kippur

Friday, October 2
Kol Nidre, 7:30 pm

Saturday, October 3
Shachrit-Musaf, 10 am
Children's Service, 1:30 pm
Mincha, 3:30 pm
Yizkor-Neilah, 5 pm

(Break fast to follow)

Sukkot

Thursday, October 8
Service/Potluck, 424 Central, 6:30 pm

Friday, October 9
Shabbat/Sukkot service, 8:15 pm
(at Sha'ar Zahav)

Saturday, October 10
Family/Children's Havurah
Potluck, 4 pm
(at home of Sue Douglass)

Simchat Torah

Wednesday, October 14, 7:30 pm
(at Sha'ar Zahav)

All services to be held at Unitarian Center, Franklin & Geary streets, except as indicated. Details about events in articles elsewhere in this issue.

Condolences

We at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav extend our sympathy to the following members who have suffered a recent loss:

To **Sage Foster** on the recent loss of her mother Sue Foster.

To **Sharyn Saslafsky** on the recent loss of her aunt Ethel Silverman.

To **Dan H.** on the recent loss of his daughter, Sarah.

To our community on the recent loss of our friend, Thomas Waddell.

The congregation also mourns the recent loss of our member and friend, Mirtha Beal.

Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in past months by the following contributors:

AIDS Fund

Hanna Altman, in appreciation for the comfort given

Naomi Knox, Tamara Brenner, Leah Dorfman, Daniel Romano, Tzipora Knox, Shosh Dworsky, Sarina Kaufman, Dov Rolnitzky of the North Suburban Branch of the Talmud Torah of St. Paul, Minnesota

Bruce Katz, in memory of Bob Mackey
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Bob Mackey

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Perel Berenstein

David Stein & Alex Ingersoll, in memory of Bob Mackey

Ellen Kugler, in memory of Bob Mackey

David Shaber, in memory of Bob Mackey

John Arnold & Jonathan Funk, in memory of Bob Mackey

Mike Rankin, in memory of Bob Mackey; in honor of David Serkin & Michael Poole's 6th Anniversary

George & Ruth Feldman, in memory of our son Mark

Debra Friedland, in loving memory of Bob Mackey

Library Fund

Sharon Schalit

Michael Erceg, in honor of David Stein & Alex Ingersoll; **Allan Berenstein & Ed Peretti**; **David Gellman**

Alex Ingersoll & David Stein, in honor of Richard Inlander as president

Jacqueline Letalien, in memory of Mirtha Beal

Prayerbook Fund

Stanley & Matha Ross, in honor of new officers and board

Eric Keitel & Aaron Cooper, in memory of Bob Mackey; in honor of Ellen Kugler's new job

Richard Inlander, in honor of Adam giving blood; **Ethan's** track record; new officers and **Va'ad**; **Ellen Kugler's** new job

Steve Greenberg, in memory of Bob Mackey

Pam Schaffer, in memory of Judith Schwartz's mother

David Stein & Alex Ingersoll, in honor of Garry Koenigsberg

Marion Trentman & Betty Kalis, in honor of Sen Talley's Bat Mitzvah

Building Fund

Alex Ingersoll & David Stein, in honor of Les Silverman, Irv Govan and Ralph Frischman for creation of the 10th Anniversary poster

Charles Norton

Catherine Wisniewski & Leila Raim, in honor of Jerry Rosenstein's birthday

Perry Paker

(Continued on page 13)

Mirtha Elena Beal 1953-1987

Mirtha Beal joined CSZ in 1985. She had served most recently as a member of the 10th Anniversary planning committee.

A native of Caracas, Venezuela, Mirtha graduated from the University of Arizona with a BA in animal science. She arrived in San Francisco in 1984 and was last employed by Veterans Housing Center in Daly City.

She is remembered by her many friends here and in Tucson for her warmth, compassion, a melancholy lilt in her voice, and the constant generosity of her hugs. Survivors include her lover, Ellen Foster, and her mother and three sisters in Venezuela.

Rosh Hashanah Cards

Sha'ar Zahav is again joining with the San Francisco Jewish Sanctuary Coalition to offer special Rosh Hashanah/Jewish New Year cards on the theme of sanctuary and peace. These cards are part of the congregation's ongoing efforts to aid refugees from El Salvador, Guatemala, and other oppressive regimes who are seeking safe haven in the United States. All proceeds from sale of the cards through CSZ will go to Sha'ar Zahav's Sanctuary Bond Fund, to enable refugees facing deportation to live in freedom as they pursue political asylum in the United States.

Purchase of the cards is a meaningful way both to send New Year greetings and to support CSZ's Covenant of Sanctuary, passed last year, which commits the congregation (among other goals) to raise \$3,000 for a revolving bond fund to obtain release of refugees from custody by the Immigration and Naturalization Service and related law-enforcement agencies.

Cards may be ordered through the
(Continued on page 13)



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So Ask Aunt Yente

Dear Aunt Yente,

I've told my roommate that after we go to Kol Nidre, all vows and obligations are forgiven, and I won't have to pay my share of last month's phone bill. She doesn't believe me. What's your opinion?

Hopeful on Howard

Dear Hopeful,

In the Talmud, Rabbi Huna says that Rabbi Levi said the same thing, but when he called to argue, the line was disconnected. Aunt Yente guesses you are pulling your roommate's leg (Aunt Yente is very broadminded about such things between consenting adults); but Aunt Yente's leg doesn't pull so easy. She does not believe any Jew doesn't understand that Kol Nidrei is only for what happens between us and God. What happens between you and your roommate is very important, and Yom Kippur is a good time to forgive and get forgiveness for an unkind word or a pulled leg, but promises to other people you keep, Kol Nidrei or no Kol Nidrei.

Aunt Yente will admit that the words of the Kol Nidrei do sound a little like they were written for Oliver North. She doesn't know any other prayer that sounds so much like it was written by a lawyer. It goes on and on, nullifying vows, and oaths, and swearings, and prohibitions of this kind and that kind—compared to this, the Fifth Amendment is *takke* a signed confession.

To fully understand why the Kol Nidrei, you need to know from what the Talmud says about vows; you have, maybe, three or four months to spare? You probably don't need to know the difference between *nidrei*, vows (like "Chocolate chip cookies are not for me"), *charomaie*, prohibitions (like "I will take no more benefit from cookies"), and *sh'vuos*, oaths (like "I swear to God I will eat no more cookies"). Aunt Yente herself isn't sure which is which, which is why she winds up at Mrs. Fields anyway. But in Jewish law, any vow is a serious matter, because what a person promises ought to mean something. While we must fulfill our promises to other people, the promises we keep making to God have to be dealt with also.

How? One way is to ask a *beis din*—a

court, of three learned people—to see whether you maybe forgot something at the time you vowed: "But when you promised, did you know that Mrs. Fields' cookies were on sale?" If even something minor wasn't considered (not that a sale on the macadamia chips would be so minor), the vow could be absolved. Still, having three rabbis follow you around in case of rash vows is a *bissle* inconvenient (particularly at Mrs. Fields, where they always expect you to treat). So the Talmud says that at the beginning of the year you can nullify all vows for that year.

So at Kol Nidrei, three people go to the *bimoh*, for our own *beis din*, to declare that last year's sins should not keep us from praying together; and then is the Kol Nidrei itself, when we ask that next year's vows should not count, so we can face God without vows and promises getting in the way.

But why is Kol Nidrei so important? Aunt Yente has her own broken promises to God to worry about (and not only about chocolate chips); but on Yom Kippur there are even more important things on her mind: "Who will have peace, and who will wander; who will rise up and who become worse." So why, for Aunt Yente along with everyone else, is the legalistic paragraph about broken vows so important?

Well to begin with, there is the music. If you come to any Sha'ar Zahav service—not just Kol Nidrei—you understand that it's not just with words that we pray; even without words, the music of the singing rises up to God. There are very few prayers all year that mean as much to Aunt Yente as the melody of Kol Nidrei.

Some other reasons Aunt Yente wants to mention, but these maybe are not so funny. (You may say that the whole column isn't such a laugh riot, but come Yom Kippur Aunt Yente will forgive you.) But let Aunt Yente tell you about two pictures in her mind from last year's Kol Nidre.

First, she remembers just before we started, when our very proper president, after her formal introduction to our most formal service of the year, held things up while she called

from the *bimoh* to people standing in the back: come up, there's a seat here and another one there. More important than being formal was making room for everyone we can. Aunt Yente was never prouder of her shul. No matter for what reason, Kol Nidrei is the time we all want to be together, and that alone is a blessing.

The other picture Aunt Yente remembers is a boy, maybe 22, 23 years old, who was a few rows in front of her. On one side of him was another boy the same age, she thought was maybe his lover, and on the other side was his mother. (Aunt Yente has *no* trouble identifying a *yiddishe mama*.) Aunt Yente noticed the boy because he couldn't stand very well, and on his *sheine* face, between his *yamulke* and his *tallis*, were many purple marks—what they call lesions. It was *takke* hard for him to stand all the way through the long chants of the Kol Nidrei, but with one arm around his mama's shoulder and another tight around his lover he managed, all the way through the *she'hechiyonu* at the end.

Every year from now on, when Aunt Yente goes to Kol Nidrei, that boy, and his lover and his mama, will be there with her. There will be others, too; the Kol Nidrei service is always crowded, and not only with those who have come that year. But the solemn gathering is a sad one. The Kol Nidrei speaks of what will be next year, and it ends with the *she'hechiyonu*—the blessing of thanksgiving that together we have reached this time. We have made mistakes, and we're going to make more of them; we have lost what can never be replaced, and next year is a mystery. But we will keep our arms around one another, and please God no one will fall whom we can hold up.

Aunt Yente seems to have something in her eye, so she'll finish; but not before she wishes all her kinderlach, and everyone else, that they all be written and sealed for life and for health and for peace. *A gut yohr.*

Aunt Yente

Aunt Yente will answer all your questions about Jewish law and ritual matters. Just write to Aunt Yente in care of the *Forward*, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, CA 94114. All material Copyright © 1987 Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

Thanks Once Again

One of Sha'ar Zahav's oldest traditions is that of presenting awards to those members who have done outstanding work for the congregation during a particular year. During my term I selected those members who had served as officers, been a member of the Executive Committee, those retiring from the Board as well as those who spent tireless hours contributing to the life of our shul. Each of them received a custom crafted havdalah spice jar. They are as follows:

Richard Inlander, Jerry Rosenstein, Ben Schalit, Don Albert, Bill Ashley-Dobbin, Daniel Chesir, Paul Cohen, Sue, Jay Feinstein, Ralph Frischman, David Gellman, Bill Goldstein, Alex Ingersoll, Eric Keitel, Allyce Kimerling, Garry Koenigsberg, Robin Leonard, Shirley Liberman, Leila Raim, Mike Rankin, Alita Rosenfeld, Sharyn Saslafsky, Marion Trentman, Susan Unger, Dana Vinicoff and Ami Zusman.

This was the longest list for major awards in our history. In addition the following dedicated and hard-working volunteers have received Certificates of Recognition for their important contributions:

Peter Abinanti, Allan Altman, Ruth Atkin, Janine Baer, Lawney Baldwin, Devorah Bat-Ha'Yah, Mirtha Beal, Leslie Bergson, Michael Bettinger, Amy Blasenheim, Howard Bobren, Tiela Chalmers, Robert Cohen, Laurie Davis, Rosalinda del Moral, Russell Discher, Eileen Dunn, Steven Elman, Michael Erceg, Aaron Frankel, Rena Frantz, Gail Friedlander, Jonathan Funk, Yoram Gal, David Gass, Allan Gold, Robert Goldware, Jane Graeven, Steven Greenberg, Susan Greenspan, Stephanie Hannaford, Carol Hoffman, Francie Hornstein, Frank Hyman, Betty Kalis, Ellen Kugler, Ida Kuluk, Kipp Leyser, Ron Lezell, Simma Lieberman, Richard Lipson, George Lucas, Mark Mackler, Frank Masson, Michael McCormick, Francie McGowan, Mark Mendelow, Jonathan Mesinger, Nancy Meyer, Jose-Luis Moscovich, Ronald Moscowitz, Charles Norton, Cheryl Orvis, Walter Palmer, Ellen Peskin, Ora Prochovnick, Jill Rose, Barry Rosen, Tom Rothgiesser, Lee Ryan, Randy Schiller, Bill Schlichter, Jonathan Schwartz, David Shaber, Nancy Snow, David Stein, Nanci Stern,

Contributions *(Continued from page 11)*

Education Fund

Leslie Bergson, in honor of the staff and students of Santa Cruz Hillel
Mike Rankin, in honor of his new godson, William Joel Milcovich
Debra Friedland, in celebration of Diane Sabin's graduation from chiropractic college
Paul Cohen
Steve Greenberg, in memory of Dan H.'s daughter Sarah

General Fund

Bruce Katz, in honor of Aaron and Eric's 5th Anniversary; and Eric's election as treasurer
John Arnold, in honor of Jon Funk's birthday
Pearl Portugese, in honor of her move to the Jewish Home
David Stein & Alex Ingersoll, in honor of Irene Ogus
Leslie Bergson, in memory of Carl Barkan
Neil Hart, in honor of Steve Elman's birthday
Alex Ingersoll & David Stein, in honor of Eric Keitel for the 10th Anniversary party
Allan Gold & Gary Glasser, in honor of Jon Funk's 30th birthday
Betty Weiss, in thanks for CSZ's hospitality
Jerry Rosenstein, in honor of Sen Talley
Cheryl Orvis, in honor of Sen Talley on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah; Allan Gold's birthday; Paul Cohen's birthday; everyone who planned and participated in the Advance
Chuck Norton, in honor of new members
Bernard Pechter, in honor of speedy recovery of Jessie Lipsih
Cheryl Orvis, in honor of Eric, Ralph, Rob and the Ten from the Heart Committee

Rebecca Swisher, Susan Talley, Edward Tanovitz, Howard Taske, Rob Tat, Sam Thal, Steven Unger, Mark Vogel, Joel Wasser, Roberta Weber, Eli Weinstein, Shana Winokur, Catherine Wisniewski and Andy Zimmerman.

Thanks again to you all.

—Irene Ogus, Immediate Past President

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

George Ash, in thanks for beautiful days
Hanna Altman, in appreciation for the comfort given
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Rose Kisilof
Don Albert, in memory of Bob Mackey; in honor of Ari Levy and Judith Schmidt-Levy; in honor of the new Hartford Property offices
The Jacobs Family, in honor of Debbi and Joel's wedding; in appreciation of Rabbi Yoel Kahn
Art Donsky
Mike Rankin, in memory of Peter Abinanti's mother
Sally Martin, in memory of her friend Sam Fancher
Rick Crane, in memory of A.J. Schott
Ellen Peskin, in memory of Mirtha Beal and in appreciation of Rabbi Yoel Kahn
Alex Ingersoll & David Stein, in honor of our full-time rabbi
Michael Erceg, in appreciation of Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Endowment Fund

Jonathan Schwartz, in memory of his grandmother, Sarah Newman

Torah Fund

David Stein & Alex Ingersoll, in honor of Jon Funk's birthday

Rosh Hashanah Cards

(Continued from page 11)

form on the enclosed flyer or purchased from the synagogue office during regular office hours. The cards come in two different designs and styles. (See enclosed flyer for more information.) For more information, including other locations where the cards may be purchased, call Russell Discher at 922-6946. The cards may also be ordered directly from the Coalition at P.O. Box 411391, San Francisco, CA 94141-1391. If you would like to help distribute copies of the flyer and pass word along about the project, contact Russell or any other Social Action Committee member.

Additional contributions to CSZ's Sanctuary Bond Fund can be made to Sha'ar Zahav, designated for the Sanctuary Fund.

—Russell Discher,
Social Action Committee

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

שַׁעַר זָהָב

220 DANVERS AT CASELLI, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94114

(415) 861-6932

Rabbi Yoel Kahn

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Vice President, Irene Ogus
Treasurer, Eric Keitel
Recorder, Ben Schalit

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Tiela Chalmers
Jay Feinstein
Robert Goldware
Betty Kalis
Garry Koenigsberg
Ellen Kugler
Robin Leonard
Alita Rosenfeld
Susan Talley

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm, with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

Committee Chairs:

Bikkur Cholim, Paul Cohen
Brotherhood, by committee
Building, David Gellman
Bylaws, Richard Inlander
Family/Children's Havurah, Sue Douglass & Jill Rose
Education, Bill Goldstein
Finance, Don Albert
Membership, Robin Leonard
Newsletter, by committee
Oneg, Bill Ashley-Dobbin & Lawney Baldwin
Past Presidents Council, Cheryl Orvis
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky & Andy Zimmerman
Ritual, Steve Greenberg
Social Action, Ami Zusman
Social Program, by committee
Women's Havurah, by committee

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Synagogue Office: Open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 2:30 pm. At other times, please leave a phone message.

Emergency Number: In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Ashbury to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

Member Union of American Hebrew Congregations and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

Advance Report (Continued from page 5)

the "reinvention of the wheel" occurs each time a leader takes on a new task. We discussed some ideas for coping with these problems as we preserve our sense of family and purpose.

Rabbi Kahn informed the leaders present at the Advance of his availability, explaining that "full time is not all time." Some next steps for the leadership to consider will be a decision-making process for studying the feasibility of bringing to Sha'ar Zahav an education program for the children of the congregation; recognizing and cultivating new synagogue leaders; documenting the congregation's operating procedures; expanding systems for making new members feel more a part of the synagogue; and creating a system within the synagogue leadership to help support synagogue leaders. Participants in this year's Advance

expressed their appreciation and thanks to Rob Tat, Rabbi Kahn, Richard Inlander, David Shaber, and Irene Ogus for the success of this year's Advance, which proved to be the productive and fun event that it has been in previous years. After this Advance, we left with a clearer sense of our identity, purpose, and potential for growth and development, and some of us even left with a little more of a tan!

—Ben Schalit, Recorder

Food Bank

Please, don't forget our brothers and sisters in need. Keep filling the shul's collection baskets with non-perishable food and other household items for the SF AIDS Foundation's residence program.

Birthdays

- 1 Tom Rothgiesser
- 2 Jeff Friedman
- 2 Simma Lieberman
- 3 Wendy Oberlander
- 6 Rosalinda del Moral
- 6 Lee Ryan
- 7 Al Baum
- 9 Jeremy Hoffman
- 9 Mark Weisman
- 12 Robin Leonard
- 12 David Pierce
- 13 Sage Foster
- 14 Kipp Leyser
- 19 Rob Tat
- 21 Janine Baer
- 21 Steven Cronenwalt
- 21 Laurie Radovsky
- 27 Ralph Vissell
- 28 Catherine Wisniewski

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Women's Havurah

High Holy Days Blood Drive

Date: SUNDAY, Sept. 27 th

Place: Irwin Memorial Blood Bank

(270 Masonic, at Turk)

Time: 10:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Please join us for our annual High Holy Days Blood Drive. Most women can donate and we urge you to do so. Although most gay men cannot donate, please invite your friends who can.

Everyone will be welcomed with home baked goodies from our men's Brotherhood; the music of your choice on a Walkman while you give; and a spirit of warmth and caring.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU !

For appointments and information call Alita Rosenfeld

662-2273

NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV -

ROSH HASHANAH~JEWISH NEW YEAR CARDS

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE FROM

● The S.F. Jewish Sanctuary Coalition

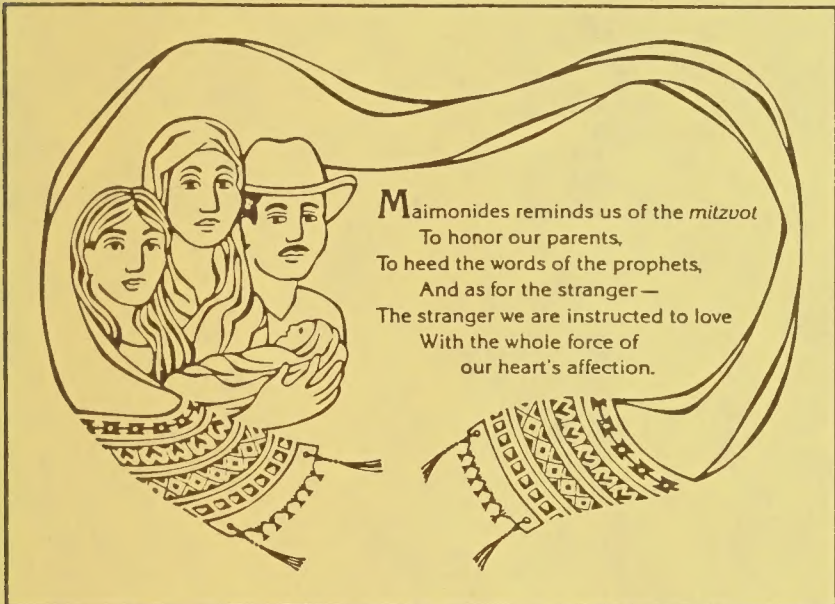
Support Efforts To Aid Refugees Seeking Safe Haven In The U.S.

Style A - Folded Card

Actual Size: 6 1/8" x 4 1/2"

Style B - Postal Card

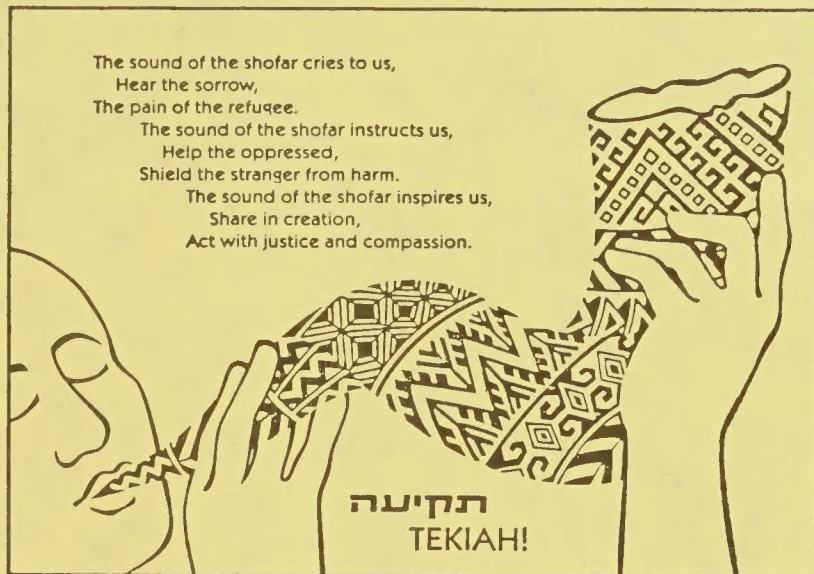
Actual Size: 6" x 4 1/4"



Message on the inside:

לשנה טובה תכתבו

May we all join together in
the blessings of the New Year



Message on the reverse side: **לשנה טובה תכתבו**

May our visions
of peace and community
be realized in the New Year

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is pleased to join with the San Francisco Jewish Sanctuary Coalition in offering 1987/5748 cards for Rosh Hashanah. All proceeds from the sale of the cards through CSZ will go to the congregation's Sanctuary Bond Fund as part of our \$3000 commitment toward that goal. Designed by local artist Linda Boonshoft, two styles are available, both in beautiful detail and color: Style A, a package of eight folded cards with envelopes, at \$8.00 per package, and Style B, a package of eight postal cards, eight per package, at \$5.00 per package. Moved to this action on a humanitarian level as well as from our Jewish tradition and experience, we remember lessons of the Holocaust when most of the world closed its doors to a people in need. Today, thousands of families and individuals who have come to us to escape injustice, death and repression in their own countries need our assistance. Your purchase of the 1987/5748 cards will have an immediate impact on this most urgent need.

For more info, call (415)922-6946.

ORDER YOURS TODAY! (please make checks payable to Cong. Sha'ar Zahav) ✕

Mail check or money order with this completed order form to: Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
220 Danvers at Caselli
San Francisco, CA 94114

Please send _____ packages of folded card Style A with
envelope at \$8.00 per package.

Please send _____ packages of postal card Style B at
\$5.00 per package.

(cards are also available
at the synagogue office
during office hours; call
861-6932.)

_____ I am enclosing an additional contribution \$ _____

_____ Total Enclosed (Please add \$.50 per package for postal charges)

_____ I would like to receive more information about the S.F.J.S.C.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

